

REMARKS

1. (**Amendments to the claims**) Claims 1, 24, 26-30, 32, 34-35 and 40-49 are pending in the application. In the Action, the Examiner objects to Claims 24, 26, 29, 35 and 46-49 as depending from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. With the present response, Applicants amend Claims 24, 26, 29, 35 and 46-48 to be in independent form, and cancel Claims 1, 27-28, 30, 32, 34 and 40-45.

The Applicants believe the Examiner's objections have been overcome and Claims 24, 26, 29, 35 and 46-49 are patentable, thus placing the application in a condition for allowance.

All amendments are made without prejudice to presenting the previous claims in related applications, such as continuation, divisional or continuation-in-part applications.

If any point requires further explanation, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative Alessandro Steinfl at (626) 792-0536.

Additional claims fees are being paid together with the electronic filing of the present response. The Applicants believe that no further fees are due in connection with the submission of the present paper. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 50-4194. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 50-4194. Please ensure that the Attorney Docket Number is referred to when charging any payments or crediting any overpayments for this case.

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being electronically filed on
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/Alessandro Steinfl/

Respectfully submitted,

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